

Camp 159th Regt. N.Y.S. Vols.
Thibodaux, La., Jany. 5, 1864

Dear Father,

Your letter containing receipt & bills for the box of canned meats came safely to hand last week & I should have have ans'd it at once, but owing to my having to balance my yearly accounts with the U.S. I have been unable to do so before. I am busy now night & day making out returns of the property in my possession belonging to the U.S. It is a tedious job & I cannot say when I will get through. I am much obliged to you for trouble you have taken in regard to the meats, & shall send the money as soon as we are paid off, which I hope will as in a very few days. I am again in a scrape in regard to my muster in as a 2d Lieut., the muster in as made at N.O. not having been accepted at Washington. I have written to uncle Daniel by this mail asking him to use his influence in regard to the matter. I have explained the whole thing to him fully. If he cannot get the matter straight, I will have six months pay stopped, which will again put me in debt, & then I will not know what to do, as all the pay I have received so far has not been sufficient to pay off the debts contracted during the time I was endeavoring to get mustered before. This is the reason I have not sent you the money I promised.

Edward is here now in command of this District, during the absence of Genl. Burge who has gone home.

Harry sailed on the Str. Columbia from N.O. on the 2d Jany. You will probably see him before this reaches you.

There is no news of any kind. The army here is quiet as it rains constantly day & night making the roads impassible. Our camp is in an awful condition, the mud being ankle deep.

The stove we had in our tent which I described to you, has been given up, as every time it rains, it fills with water, owing to the nature of the soil. We have now got a new contrivance consisting of a boiler raised from the floor by a couple of bricks placed under each end & having a chimney built from one end through a hole in the side of the tent. In this we make our fire & it heats the tent up so, that there is hardly any standing it.

Give my love to all the folks. If Harry is home tell him I will write soon.

I remain
Your Affectionate Son
Frank